having 5,000 population out of which 50% are Scheduled Tribes in each cluster. In addition, the tribals indentified as Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) are also assisted.

**Proposal to Increase Capacity of Nagercoil T.V.**

2805. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of the Nagercoil T.V. Station so as to enable it to cover at least the entire Kanya Kumari District in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRUA VYAS): (a) and (b). Besides the low power TV transmitter functioning at Nagercoil, parts of Kanyakumari district receive TV service from the high power TV transmitter operating at Kodaikanal. There is no proposal at present either to augment the power of the existing transmitter at Nagercoil or to replace the same by a high power transmitter. It would nevertheless be Doordarshan's endeavour to strengthen TV service in the district depending upon the availability of adequate resources for the purpose.

**Recognition of Dusandh Caste as Scheduled Caste**

2806. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dusandh Caste is recognised under the Scheduled Caste amendment order 1956-76-82 Act; and

(b) if so, the reasons for which it is not recognised in Delhi whereas the people of this Caste have been living in Delhi for the last 40 years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). Dusandh has been notified as Scheduled Caste in relation to any State or U.T.

**Telex Facilities in Tirpur, Tamil Nadu**

2807. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telex facilities pending in Tirpur, Tamil Nadu with the Government; and

(b) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 265.

(b) The existing Telex Exchange is likely to be expanded by another 250 lines, during the year 1992-93. Considerable proportion of the waiting list will be cleared subsequently within a period of six months from the date of expansion of the existing telex exchange.

**Mess Charges to Inmates of Social Welfare Hostels**

2808. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mess charges being paid to the inmates Social Welfare Hostels are inadequate and are not commensurate with the hike in prices; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to evolve a Uniform Policy throughout the country in this regard and the payment of

higher Mess charges whenever the prices increase?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b). No such scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Welfare.

**Shortage of Power in Haryana**

2809. SHRI NARAIN SINGH CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any gas based power plant in Haryana preferably near Delhi to meet power shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A proposal has been received from National Thermal Power Corporation for setting up a gas based combined cycle power project (800 MW) in Faridabad district of Haryana. The proposal has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority subject to certain conditions including gas linkage, clearance from environmetal and forests angle etc. Ministry of Environment and Forests has accorded its clearance for the project in June, 1990. The project was considered by the Central Electricity Authority for variable load operation. A decision has since been taken that the gas power stations should operate on base load. The project will require tying up of gas linkage for operation under base load. The present estimated cost of the project including associated transmission system is Rs. 1349.11 crores based on 4th quarter 1990 price level.

**Intruders from Pakistan**

2810. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of intruders from Pakistan arrested since last four months;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to close all the sensitive borders in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The information is being collected and would be laid on the table of the House.

(b) and (c). Serveral steps have been taken to improve the vigil on the border. These include construction of fencing and floodlighting, reducing gaps between borer outposts, increasing petrols and nakas, construction of OP Towers; providing night vision devices and other electronic equipments to BSF; erecting wire obstacles etc.

[*Translation*]

**Doordarshan to Compete B.B.C. and C.N.N.**

2812. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Doordarshan is unable